

HR12 INTRODUCED



1 OZZAMM-1
2 By Representative Jackson
3 RFD: RULES
4 First Read: 21-Mar-23
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HR_____ PROCLAIMING THAT THE STATE OF ALABAMA SUPPORTS
ADMITTING WASHINGTON, D.C., INTO THE UNION AS A STATE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

WHEREAS, the people living on the land that would
eventually be designated as the District of Columbia were
provided the right to vote for representation in Congress
when the United States Constitution was ratified in 1788;
and

WHEREAS, the passage of the Organic Act of 1801 placed
the District of Columbia under the exclusive authority of
the United States Congress and abolished residents' right to
vote for members of Congress and the President and Vice
President of the United States; and

WHEREAS, residents of the District of Columbia were
granted the right to vote for the President and Vice
President through passage of the Twenty-third Amendment to
the United States Constitution in 1961; and

WHEREAS, as of 2021, the U.S. Census Bureau data
estimates that the District of Columbia's population at
approximately 689,545 residents is comparable to the
populations of Wyoming (576,851), Vermont (643,077), Alaska



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26 (733,391), and North Dakota (779,094); and

27 WHEREAS, residents of the District of Columbia share
28 all the responsibilities of United States citizenship,
29 including paying more federal taxes than residents of 22
30 states, service on federal juries, and defending the United
31 States as members of the United States armed forces in every
32 war since the War for Independence, yet they are denied full
33 representation in Congress; and

34 WHEREAS, the residents of the District of Columbia
35 themselves have endorsed statehood for the District of
36 Columbia and passed a district-wide referendum on November
37 8, 2016, which favored statehood by 86 percent; and

38 WHEREAS, no other democratic nation denies the right
39 of self-government, including participation in its national
40 legislature, to the residents of its capital; and

41 WHEREAS, the residents of the District of Columbia
42 lack full democracy, equality, and citizenship enjoyed by
43 the residents of the 50 states; and

44 WHEREAS, the United States Congress repeatedly has
45 interfered with the District of Columbia's limited
46 self-government by enacting laws that affect the District of
47 Columbia's expenditure of its locally raised tax revenue,
48 including barring the usage of locally raised revenue, thus
49 violating the fundamental principle that states and local
50 governments are best suited to enact legislation that



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51 represents the will of their citizens; and

52 WHEREAS, although the District of Columbia has passed
53 consecutive balanced budgets since FY1997, it still faces
54 the possibility of being shut down yearly because of
55 Congressional deliberations over the federal budget; and

56 WHEREAS, District of Columbia Delegate Eleanor Holmes
57 Norton and Delaware U.S. Senator Tom Carper introduced in
58 the 118th Congress H.R. 51 and S. 51, the Washington, D.C.
59 Admission Act, that provides that the State of Washington,
60 D.C., would have all the rights of citizenship as taxpaying
61 American citizens, including two Senators and at least one
62 House member; and

63 WHEREAS, the United Nations Human Rights Committee has
64 called on the United States Congress to address the District
65 of Columbia's lack of political equality, and the
66 Organization of American States has declared the
67 disenfranchisement of the District of Columbia residents a
68 violation of its charter agreement, to which the United
69 States is a signatory; now therefore,

70 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
71 LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That the State of Alabama supports
72 admitting Washington, D.C., into the Union as a state of the
73 United States of America.

74 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the members of the United
75 States Congress are urged to enact federal legislation



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76 granting statehood to the people of Washington, D.C.

77 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this
78 resolution be sent to the President of the United States of
79 America, the Vice President of the United States of America,
80 the Speaker of the United States Congress, the President Pro
81 Tempore of the United States Senate, and the members of the
82 Alabama Congressional Delegation.

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